

think as you do, all the more so because I am
 out of sym-
 pathy with the great majority of my
 countrymen, and es-
 pecially with those who claim the foremost
 place in light
 and leading. I am not in the least a hero, my
 dear fellow.
 I am a perfectly commonplace man and I
 know it; I am
 just a decent American citizen who tries to
 stand for what
 is decent in his own country and in other
 countries and
 who owes very much to you and to certain
 men like you
 who are not fellow-countrymen of his.

"That's a dreadful tragedy of which you
 speak in con-
 nection with that noble battalion of regular
 infantry and
 the fate they encountered at the Dardanelles.

"Booth was at my house just at the time of
 the outbreak
 of the war last year. To think of the horror
 that has be-
 fallen his partner!

"Your son lunched here the Sunday before
 he sailed.
 As you know, he is one of the young men whom
 I especially
 admire."

In 1918 Eoosevelt had four sons and a son-in-
 law in the
 war, and Trevelyan's youngest son, George
 Macaulay Tre-
 velyan, had been in it since 1915. This
 common interest
 and anxiety naturally drew them more closely
 than ever
 together and the letters reveal an added tone
 of tender
 affection. When in the spring of 1918 the
 news came of
 the wounding of two of the Eoosevelt boys,
 Trevelyan sent
 to Roosevelt a letter of sympathy, to which the
 latter replied
 on April 9:

"Yes; you know exactly how I feel about
 Archie's
 wounds. In this great and terrible war we
 are indeed

proud that events here so shaped themselves
that our four
sons are at the front, and Ethel's husband
also; we would
not for anything have them anywhere else;
but I fear we
would welcome their return home, each with
an arm or leg
off, so that they could feel that they had
played their parts
manfully, and yet we could have them back!
Archie's arm
was badly fractured, and a shell splinter went
into his knee;
he continued in command for some time,
until the loss of